

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 9468

BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR CSCE SHUM CGEN CVIS PL US
SUBJ: DIVIDED FAMILIES: A POLISH POLICY STATEMENT AND A FEW MORE
CASES SOLVED

REF: (A) WARSAW 9225, (B) WARSAW 9335

1. ON DECEMBER 29, THE EMBASSY'S CONSULAR SECTION CHIEF WAS CALLED TO THE MFA BY VICE DIRECTOR MICKIEWICZ OF THE CONSULAR DEPARTMENT TO TALK AGAIN ABOUT DIVIDED FAMILIES. MICKIEWICZ HANDED THE EMBASSY OFFICER TWO LISTS:

(A) ONE CONTAINED 39 CASES, INVOLVING 77 PEOPLE, WHICH MICKIEWICZ SAID HAD BEEN FAVORABLY RESOLVED. FOURTEEN OF THESE CASES INVOLVED 28 PEOPLE WHO HAD NOT BEEN INCLUDED IN THE OTHER LISTS HANDED OVER EARLIER TO THE EMBASSY (SEE REFS A AND B). THE OTHERS WERE DUPLICATIONS. ELEVEN OF THE FOURTEEN CASES HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY REPRESENTED TO THE GOP.

(B) THE OTHER LIST CONTAINED 55 NAMES. MICKIEWICZ SAID THESE WERE PERSONS WHO HAD BEEN ON THE LISTS HANDED BY THE AMBASSADOR TO VICE MINISTER SPASOWSKI ON DECEMBER 5 AND 12, 1977, BUT WHO HAD INDICATED TO POLISH OFFICIALS THAT THEY DID NOT NOW WISH TO
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EMIGRATE TO THE UNITED STATES.

2. MICKIEWICZ SAID HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO MAKE SOME GENERAL STATEMENTS ABOUT THE DIVIDED FAMILIES ISSUE. HE REFERRED TO THE RECENT SEMI-ANNUAL CSCE REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT TO THE CONGRESS AND TO THE TWO LISTS HANDED OVER BY THE AMBASSADOR. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN ASKED TO ANALYZE THE AMBASSADOR'S LISTS TO

DETERMINE WHAT THE SITUATION WAS WITH REGARD TO THOSE CASES. HE THEN GAVE THE FOLLOWING FIGURES CONCERNING NAMES ON THE LISTS:

A. 78 PEOPLE WANTED TO EMIGRATE AND WOULD BE PERMITTED TO DO SO. THESE APPROVALS HAD NOW BEEN COMMUNICATED TO THE EMBASSY.

B. 55 PEOPLE DID NOT NOW WANT TO EMIGRATE TO THE UNITED STATES, ALTHOUGH THEY HAD ONCE WANTED TO DO SO.

C. 12 PEOPLE WERE NOW REUNITED WITH THEIR FAMILIES IN POLAND AND THUS COULD NOT BE CHARACTERIZED AS DIVIDED FAMILY CASES.

D. 2 PEOPLE HAD BEEN REFUSED VISAS TO THE UNITED STATES.

E. FOUR CASES INVOLVED PERSONS WHO WERE EITHER NOT IN POLAND OR WHO HAD RECENTLY RETURNED FROM ABROAD.

F. SIX CASES INVOLVED POLISH REFUSALS OF EXIT DOCUMENTATION (SEE SEPARATE TELEGRAM).

3. MICKIEWICZ SAID THE GOP WAS DISTURBED THAT THE SEMI-ANNUAL CSCE REPORT HAD CLEARLY INCLUDED SOME CASES THAT COULD NOT BE PROPERLY CLASSIFIED AS DIVIDED FAMILIES OR AS STILL ACTIVE. HE SAID THAT THE GOP BELIEVED THE CASES LISTED IN PARAS 2 A, B, C AND D ABOVE DID NOT DESERVE INCLUSION IN THE REPORT. HE SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WONDERED WHY THE USG "CREATED" DIVIDED FAMILY CASES. SUCH INACCURACIES REPRESENTED A POLITICAL PROBLEM FOR POLAND, WHICH BELIEVED THAT ITS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CSCE FINAL ACT WAS GOOD. THE GOP DOES NOT, THEREFORE, AGREE WITH CONCLUSIONS IN SUCH A REPORT WHICH ARE NOT BASED ON FACTS.

4. EMBOFF RESPONDED THAT THE USG COULD ONLY COMPILE ITS STATIS-
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TICS ON DIVIDED FAMILIES FROM TWO SOURCES: INFORMATION FROM THE POLISH AUTHORITIES AND THE STATEMENTS OF THE APPLICANTS IN THESE CASES. THE NUMBER OF CASES INVOLVED MADE FREQUENT CHECKING WITH THE APPLICANTS IMPOSSIBLE. THIS IS ONE OF THE REASONS WHY THE U.S. SIDE HAD FREQUENTLY PROPOSED REGULAR MEETINGS BETWEEN THE POLISH AND AMERICAN SIDES FOR CASE-BY-CASE REVIEWS. IF, AT SUCH MEETINGS, THE POLISH AUTHORITIES INDICATED THAT CERTAIN PERSONS WERE NO LONGER INTERESTED IN EMIGRATION TO THE US, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER SUCH CASES INACTIVE WHEN WE HAD VERIFIED THAT THIS WAS TRUE. COMMENT: EMBOFF MADE THIS POINT SEVERAL TIMES DURING THE MEETING, BUT MICKIEWICZ DID NOT REACT EXCEPT TO TAKE DETAILED NOTES. END COMMENT. EMBOFF ALSO SAID THE FOLLOWING:

A. U.S. SIDE DID NOT "CREATE" DIVIDED FAMILY CASES.

B. WE WOULD VERIFY THE STATUS OF THE PERSONS DESCRIBED IN PARAS 2 B, C, D, AND E, AND, IF POSSIBLE, THEIR WISHES WITH REGARD TO EMIGRATION. WE WOULD CONSIDER INACTIVE ALL CASES WHERE THE APPLICANTS WERE NO LONGER INTERESTED IN EMIGRATING.

C. WE DID NOT AGREE THAT THE PRESENCE OF A UNITED FAMILY IN POLAND MEANT THAT SUCH CASES COULD NOT BE COUNTED AS A DIVIDED FAMILY. AT ONE TIME, ALL THESE FAMILIES HAD MEMBERS IN THE UNITED STATES. THESE PEOPLE MIGHT HAVE RETURNED TO POLAND BECAUSE

THE GOP WOULD NOT LET THEIR RELATIVES IN POLAND JOIN THEM IN THE
US. WE BELIEVED THAT THE ISSUE WAS FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT. WE
WOULD DETERMINE THE WISHES OF THE TWELVE FAMILIES IN THIS CATEGORY.

D. WE WOULD CHECK INTO THE CASES OF THE TWO PEOPLE WHO WERE
REPORTEDLY REFUSED US VISAS.

E. WE WOULD INVESTIGATE THE CASES OF THE SIX NEGATIVE
DECISIONS AND RETURN TO THE MINISTRY WITH OUR OBSERVATIONS SOON.

5. COMMENT: THE FOLLOWING SEEMS TO BE CLEAR FROM THE THREE
MEETINGS WITH MICKIEWICZ.

A. THE GOP HAS TRIED TO RESOLVE A NUMBER OF DIVIDED FAMILIES
CASES BEFORE THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT.

B. THE POLISH EFFORT WAS HURRIED. THE REPETITIONS AND
INACCURACIES IN THE LISTS AND THE STATISTICAL PRESENTATION
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REFLECT A DECISION TO IMPROVE POLISH PERFORMANCE QUICKLY.
END COMMENT.

6. THE TOTALS APPROVED ON THE THREE POLISH LISTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NUCLEAR CASES ON THE EMBASSY'S LISTS - 46

NON-NUCLEAR CASES ON THE EMBASSY'S LISTS - 10

OTHER RESOLVED CASES NOT ON THE EMBASSY'S LISTS - 56

DAVIES

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